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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

July Livestock Slaughter
Average Prices Received by Farmers
U.S. & Delta States Farm Labor & Wage Rates
U.S. Rice Stocks

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during July totaled 400,000 pounds, unchanged from June and the same as the previous year.

There were 400 head of **cattle** slaughtered during July, down 100 head from June but unchanged from the previous year. Average live weight was 712 pounds, down 30 pounds from the previous month and 47 pounds below July 2010. Total live weight, at 317,000 pounds, was down nine percent from the previous month and seven percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during July totaled 300 head, unchanged from June but 100 head below the previous year. Live weight averaged 520 pounds, down eight pounds from June and 16 pounds below July 2010. Total live weight, at 169,000 pounds, was down eight percent from June and 20 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during July totaled 700 head, down 200 head from the previous month but the same as the previous year. Average live weight was 186 pounds, down seven pounds from June and four pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 130,000 pounds, down 21 percent from June and seven percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during July was 300 head, the same as in June and the previous year. Live weight averaged 58 pounds, up five pounds from the previous month but five pounds below the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.8 billion pounds in July, down four percent from the four billion pounds produced in July 2010.

July 2011 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. **July 2010** contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.1 billion pounds, was four percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.8 million head, down five percent from July 2010. The average live weight was down one pound from the previous year, at 1,272 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.1 million pounds, eight percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 73,400 head, down two percent from July 2010. The average live weight was down seven pounds from last year, at 244 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.6 billion pounds, down four percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.2 million head, down four percent from July 2010. The average live weight was down one pound from the previous year, at 268 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.9 million pounds, was down 15 percent from July 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 164,900 head, 16 percent below last year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, up three pounds from July a year ago.

January to July 2011 commercial red meat production was 28.0 billion pounds, up one percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up one percent from last year; veal was down three percent; pork was up one percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down nine percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	June	July		January – July		July		January – July	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
----- Number, thousand head -----									
Cattle	0.5	0.4	0.4	3.1	3.0	2,899.2	2,765.8	19,742.6	19,721.7
Calves	0.3	0.4	0.3	3.0	2.4	75.1	73.4	509.3	479.4
Hogs	0.9	0.7	0.7	6.6	6.4	8,469.0	8,158.5	62,173.0	61,757.1
Sheep & Lambs	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.1	1.7	197.5	164.9	1,411.3	1,244.5
----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----									
Cattle	349	341	317	2,433	2,484	3,678,847	3,506,045	24,965,672	25,001,705
Calves	184	210	169	1,652	1,342	18,568	17,192	130,366	126,826
Hogs	165	140	130	1,283	1,241	2,275,193	2,186,630	16,848,534	16,991,270
Sheep & Lambs	14	21	18	149	107	25,752	21,855	191,438	173,556
----- Average live weight, pounds -----									
Cattle	742	759	712	785	828	1,273	1,272	1,269	1,272
Calves	528	536	520	551	559	251	244	260	271
Hogs	193	190	186	194	194	269	268	271	275
Sheep & Lambs	53	63	58	71	63	130	133	136	140
----- Million pounds -----									
Red Meat	0.4	0.4	0.4	3.4	3.3	3,955.5	3,793.1	27,810.1	27,994.4

August Farm Prices Received Index Up

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 182 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased two points from July. The Crop Index was up two points and the Livestock Index increased three points. Producers received higher prices for wheat, corn and eggs and lower prices for lettuce, potatoes and soybeans. In addition to prices, the overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of cattle, sweet corn and barley offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, corn and strawberries.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 41 points from August 2010. The Food Commodities Index, at 173, increased two points from last month and increased 31 points from August 2010.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The August Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates was 204 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index was unchanged from July but 22 points above August 2010. Higher prices in August for feed grains, nitrogen, hay & forages and mixed fertilizer offset lower prices for feeder cattle, complete feeds, feeder pigs, and potash & phosphate.

Average Prices Received By Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	August 2010	July 2011	August 2011 ¹	August 2010	July 2011	August 2011 ¹
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Soybeans, per bushel	9.75	12.30	2/	10.10	13.20	12.90
Sorghum, per cwt	6.74	2/	11.20	6.36	10.40	12.30
Rice, per cwt	10.40	12.30	12.50	11.60	12.70	13.20
Upland Cotton, per pound	2/	.799	2/	.772	.801	.841 ³
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	110.00	170.00	172.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴	70.50	5/	5/	93.50	111.00	110.00
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	96.60	5/	5/	98.10	115.00	113.00
Cows, per cwt ⁶	55.20	5/	5/	58.30	73.60	71.10
Calves, per cwt	111.00	5/	5/	123.00	138.00	134.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.490	.470	.480
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.789	.880	1.140
Milk, All, per cwt ⁷	n/a	n/a	n/a	16.70	21.90	22.00

¹ Mid-month.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³ Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

⁴ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁵ Estimates discontinued in 2011.

⁶ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁷ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums.

Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = not available

Delta States Farm Labor

Farm labor estimates are made for the combined Delta states: Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. The Delta states had 25,000 hired workers on farms and ranches during the week of July 10-16, 2011, down 14 percent from July 11-17, 2010. Of the 25,000 hired workers, workers who work 150 days or more a year accounted for 72 percent of the total, and workers who work 149 days or fewer accounted for the remaining 28 percent.

The average wage rate in the Delta states for all hired farm workers was \$9.85 per hour compared to \$9.34 per hour in July 2010. Delta states hired farm workers averaged \$1.05 per hour less than the average U. S. hired farm worker. Livestock workers earned \$10.27 per hour compared to \$8.96 per hour a year earlier. Field workers were earning \$9.24, or \$.22 cents more per hour this July than last July.

The average numbers of hours worked, at 39.5 hours per week, was 1.8 hours fewer per week than the current U.S. average of 41.3 hours per week.

United States Farm Labor

There were 1,186,000 hired workers on the nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 10-16, 2011, down five percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 836,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 350,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.90 per hour during the July 2011 reference week, up 11 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.24 per hour, up 15 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$10.28 per hour compared with \$10.15 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.25 per hour, was up 14 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 41.3 for hired workers during the survey week, up one percent from a year ago.

Farm Labor & Wage Rates: Delta and United States

Item	Delta ¹			United States		
	July 2010	April ² 2011	July 2011	July 2010	April ² 2011	July 2011
Hired Workers (All)	29		25	1,245		1,186
Ag Service Workers	---		---	360		350
Hired Farm Workers	29		25	885		836
150 Days or More	18		18	627		606
149 Days or Less	11		7	258		230
Average Hours Worked (Hired Farm Workers)	38.3		39.5	40.7		41.3
Average Wage Rate (Hired Farm Workers)	\$9.34		\$9.85	\$10.79		\$10.90
By Type of Worker						
Field	\$9.02		\$9.24	\$10.09		\$10.24
Livestock	\$8.96		\$10.27	\$10.15		\$10.28

¹ Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

² The April 2011 Farm Labor Survey was not conducted.

--- Data not published.

United States Rice Stocks Up

Rough rice stocks in all positions on August 1, 2011, totaled 41.6 million hundredweight (cwt), up 37 percent from the total on August 1, 2010. Stocks held on farms totaled 3.7 million cwt and off-farm stocks totaled 37.9 million cwt. Long grain varieties accounted for 79 percent of the total rough rice, medium grain accounted for 19 percent, and short grain varieties accounted for two percent.

Milled rice stocks in all positions totaled 4.7 million cwt, up seven percent from a year ago. Milled rice stocks were comprised of 2.8 million cwt of whole kernel rice and 1.9 million cwt of second heads, screenings and brewers rice.

United States Rice Stocks

	On Farm	Off Farm ¹ Farm	Total All Positions
	<u>(Domestic Units – 1,000 Cwt)</u>		
Date	-----Rough Rice-----		
August 1, 2010	1,200	29,176	30,376
June 1, 2011	13,227	58,146	71,373
August 1, 2011	3,727	37,917	41,644
	-----Milled Rice-----		
August 1, 2010	---	4,380	4,380
June 1, 2011	---	5,968	5,968
August 1, 2011	---	4,667	4,667

¹ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, ports and in transit.

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